

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 125941

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 125941

FOLLOWING REPEAT BONN 09379 ACTION SECSTATE

BONN COPENHAGEN LONDON MOSCOW PARIS BERLIN

NATO BRUSSELS ZURICH JUNE 12, 1974. QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 09379

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, SZ, GW, UK, US

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - BERLIN/ZURICH SERVICE

REF: BERN 2207

1. WITH REFERENCE TO PARA 2, REFTTEL, THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY ON PAN AM'S APPLICATION FOR THE BERLIN/ZURICH SERVICE, WITH REFERENCES, MAY BE HELPFUL: (A) ON JANUARY 25 (BONN 1423) EMBASSY CAA CONSULTED WITH BCATAG REPS INFORMING THEM OF PAA PROPOSAL AND ASKING FOR APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE. SINCE THEN, EMB CAA HAS ASKED BRITISH CAA ROUTINELY FROM TIME TO TIME ABOUT UK APPROVAL. (B) ON MARCH 13 (BONN 4033) CAA INFORMED BRITISH OF US APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF BA BERLIN/ZURICH SERVICE, PER DEPT'S INSTRUCTION (STATE 49169). BRITISH APPROVAL FOR PAA STILL NOT FORTHCOMING. (C) ON APRIL 5, BRITISH CAA (GROVES) INFORMED EMBASSY THAT THE BRITISH WOULD BE DISCUSSING THE PROPOSED BA BERLIN/ZURICH ROUTE WITH THE SWISS AUTHORITIES AT THE END OF APRIL (BONN 5589).

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PAGE 02 STATE 125941

EMBASSY CAA OBSERVED TO GROVES THAT, AS GROVES ALREADY

KNEW, WE WERE ALREADY ENGAGED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SWISS. (D) ON MAY 9, THE UK OFFERED TO APPROVE THE PAA PROPOSED SERVICE TO COPENHAGEN IF WE WOULD LET BA HAVE EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS TO ZURICH. (STILL NO BRITISH APPROVAL FOR PAA TO ZURICH).

2. COMMENT: UK EMBASSY REP IS LITERALLY CORRECT IN SAYING THAT BA HAS ALLIED APPROVAL FOR A BERLIN/ZURICH SERVICE, AND IT IS TRUE THAT PAA DOES NOT RPT NOT HAVE SUCH APPROVAL. (THE FRG HAS NO OBJECTIONS TO SERVICES BY EITHER OR BY BOTH CARRIERS.) UNTIL THE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE PROBLEM OF BERLIN INTERNATIONAL AIR SERVICES (STATE 107616) IS COMPLETED, THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER WHETHER WE SHOULD WITHDRAW OR SUSPEND OUR APPROVAL FOR BA TO OPERATE BERLIN/ZURICH SERVICES. WE MIGHT SAY THAT WHILE THE US HAS APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE, AND CONTINUES TO DO SO, WE HAVE DECIDED THAT WE CANNOT NOW MAINTAIN OUR APPROVAL FOR THE SPECIFIC BA PROPOSAL FOR A DAILY BERLIN/ZURICH SERVICE (BONN 3688) IN VIEW OF THE UK FAILURE TO APPROVE IN PRINCIPLE SIMILAR SERVICE FOR PAA.

HILLENBRAND UNQUOTE SISCO

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